

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 22, 2026

Setting 5, ELW p.156



**St. Andrew's
Lutheran Church**

914 West Boulevard South

Columbia, MO 65203

573-449-5674 ✚ SaintAndrewsLutheran.org

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Welcome to worship! Whether you are here for the first time or have been a life-long member, we pray that you experience God's presence in worship.

All God's Children are Welcome! If you have children, know that all of you are welcome in worship. Little people sounds tell us that everyone is here. If your little one becomes fussy, feel free to step out for a moment. Families may want to sit near the pray ground in the front left side of the Worship space. There are speakers in the gathering space.

Pastoral Concerns occasionally come up. In cases of severe illness, hospitalization, death, birth of a child, marriages, joys and sadness, many people would like a pastor to visit with them. Please be sure to contact the office to let us know of your desire.

Offering is received as a response to God's grace and blessing, and as an expression of our faith. Jesus tells us, 'For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.' (Matthew 6:21)

Holy Communion is celebrated at nearly every service. Admission to the Sacrament is by invitation of the Lord, presented through the Church to those who are baptized. All are welcome.

Interested in growing in faith? If you have questions about what it means to enter into partnership in our shared ministry feel free to contact Pastor David.

Announcements: The announcements begin on page 20, following the worship service.

Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church Welcome Statement



At St. Andrew's Lutheran Church (ELCA), we hold space for you—the full you—including your race, age, ethnic background, personality, experiences, gender identity, sexual orientations, gender expressions, and mental, spiritual, and physical needs. Here, you are invited to worship, pray, play, be baptized, get married, and celebrate Holy Communion.

Together, we strive to eliminate human-caused barriers to a holy relationship with Jesus Christ and with one another. We hear the call to love our neighbor as a commitment to antiracism and welcome for our LGBTQIA+ siblings. We pledge to work intentionally to further justice and inclusion. We strive to glorify God in the ways we care for each other, our communities, and our planet. Recognizing that we are all siblings in Christ, we celebrate, affirm, and welcome individuals and families in all their beautiful and varied compositions. As a church that holds space just for you, we are better for having you and your unique voice here! Come just as you are!

Welcome to St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

Page number references (such as p.203 refer to numbers in the lower corners of the front of Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) or All Creation Sings (ACS).
Hymn numbers (such as ELW 605) refer to large numbers associated with songs—typically at the top of the page.

‡GATHERING‡

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

8:30

Graves into Gardens

by Brandon Lake

11:00

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

arr. B. C. Dockery
(Jim Thorpe, saxophone)

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ‡ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt
and blots out all offenses.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For failing to recognize your coming reign,
and for hindering the work of the Spirit:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition,
and for disdaining the living water Christ offers:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For disregarding voices from the margin,
and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:
Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent,
and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:
Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound.
Through faith, the free gift of God,
you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ.
In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead
dwells in you,
pours God's love into your hearts,
and gives you life and peace.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

ELW 886

- 1 Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!
- 2 My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honors of your name.
- 3 The name of Jesus charms our fears
and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner's ears,
brings life and health and peace.
- 4 He speaks, and list'ning to his voice,
new life the dead receive;
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.
- 5 Look unto him, your Savior own,
O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone,
be justified by grace!

6 To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav'n.

GREETING

ELW p.156

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

KYRIE

ELW p.156

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above,
and for our salvation,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world,
for the well-being of the Church of God,
and for the unity of all,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house,
and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

ELW p.159

Let us pray.
Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death.
Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in
Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our
Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever.
Amen.

‡WORD‡

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

CHILDREN'S TIME

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 37:1-14

A reading from Ezekiel.

¹ The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ² He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³ He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." ⁴ Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵ Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶ I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD."

⁷ So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸ I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. ⁹ Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰ I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

¹¹ Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' ¹² Therefore prophesy and say to them: Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³ And you shall know that I am the LORD when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴ I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 130

¹ Out of the depths

I cry to you, O LORD;

² **O LORD, hear my voice!**

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

³ If you were to keep watch over sins,

O LORD, who could stand?

⁴ **Yet with you is forgiveness,**

in order that you may be feared.

⁵ I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits;

in your word is my hope.

⁶ **My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning,
more than those who keep watch for the morning.**

⁷ O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love;

with the LORD there is plenteous redemption.

⁸ **For the LORD shall redeem Israel**

from all their sins.

SECOND READING

Romans 8:6-11

A reading from Romans.

⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW p.160

Glory and praise to you, O Lord Jesus Christ.

I am the resurrection ¹ and the life;* whoever believes in me will ¹ never die.

(John 11:25, 26)

Glory and praise to you, O Lord Jesus Christ.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴ But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." ⁵ Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶ after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

⁷ Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸ The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" ⁹ Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰ But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in them." ¹¹ After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." ¹² The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." ¹³ Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴ Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵ For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." ¹⁶ Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

¹⁷ When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴ Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷ She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

²⁸ When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." ²⁹ And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there.

³² When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴ He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵ Jesus began to weep. ³⁶ So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷ But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

³⁸ Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹ Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³ When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

⁴⁵ Many of the Jews, therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did believed in him.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart

ELW 750

- 1 Lord, thee I love with all my heart;
I pray thee, ne'er from me depart;
with tender mercy cheer me.
Earth has no pleasure I would share,
yea, heav'n itself were void and bare
if thou, Lord, were not near me.
And should my heart for sorrow break,
my trust in thee can nothing shake.
Thou art the portion I have sought;
thy precious blood my soul has bought.
Lord Jesus Christ,
my God and Lord, my God and Lord,
forsake me not! I trust thy word.

2 Yea, Lord, thy own rich bounty gave
my body, soul, and all I have
in this poor life of labor.
Lord, grant that I in ev'ry place
may glorify thy lavish grace
and serve and help my neighbor.
Let no false teaching me beguile,
let Satan not my soul defile.
Give strength and patience unto me
to bear my cross and follow thee.
Lord Jesus Christ,
my God and Lord, my God and Lord,
in death thy comfort still afford.

3 Lord, let at last thine angels come,
to Abr'ham's bosom bear me home,
that I may die unfearing;
and in its narrow chamber keep
my body safe in peaceful sleep
until thy reappearing.
And then from death awaken me,
that these mine eyes with joy may see,
O Son of God, thy glorious face,
my Savior and my fount of grace.
Lord Jesus Christ,
my prayer attend, my prayer attend,
and I will praise thee without end!

APOSTLES' CREED

ELW p.160

Having heard of God's steadfast love, let us commit ourselves to that relationship of love using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE INTERCESSION

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

Each petition concludes:

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

The final petition concludes:

...through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

ELW p.161

We open Zoom microphones to speak Peace to one another.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

✠**MEAL**✠

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

Please remember that Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church continues important ministry. Consider making offerings by any of these means:

- **Offering Basket:** Place your offering in the basket as you enter or leave worship;
- **Mail:** send offerings to Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church weekly or monthly;
- **Online:** visit the SaintAndrewsLutheran.org website and click the Donate Now button;
- **Bill pay:** use the convenience of the bill pay feature through your financial institution.
- **Give by Text:** Use a smart phone to text the contribution amount to 844-989-4094. Return text will provide a link for recording credit/debit card information and your contact information.

OFFERING SONG

8:30

Graves in Gardens

by Brandon Lake

- 1 I searched the world
But it couldn't fill me
Man's empty praise
And treasures that fade
Are never enough
Then You came along
And put me back together
And every desire
Is now satisfied
Here in Your love

Chorus

Oh, there's nothing better than You
There's nothing better than You
Lord, there's nothing
Nothing is better than You

- 2 I'm not afraid
To show You my weakness
My failures and flaws
Lord, You've seen 'em all
And You still call me friend
'Cause the God of the mountain
Is the God of the valley
There's not a place
Your mercy and grace
Won't find me again

Chorus

Oh, there's nothing better than You
There's nothing better than You
Lord, there's nothing
Nothing is better than You
Oh, there's nothing better than You
There's nothing better than You
Lord, there's nothing
Nothing is better than You

Bridge

You turn mourning to dancing
You give beauty for ashes
You turn shame into glory
You're the only one who can
You turn graves into gardens
You turn bones into armies
You turn seas into highways
You're the only one who can
You're the only one who can

Chorus x2

Oh, there's nothing better than You
There's nothing better than You
Lord, there's nothing
Nothing is better than You

11:00

What Wondrous Love Is This

arr. B. C. Dockery
(Jim Thorpe, saxophone)

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.
O God, maker of heaven and earth,
your steadfast love embraces all creation.
You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth
and bring forth its bounty.
Through these gifts of bread and wine,
draw us into the death and life of your Son,
who calls us to bear witness to his saving work.
We ask this in Jesus' name.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Dialogue

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

ELW p.161

PREFACE

ELW p.161

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW p.162

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of pow'r and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

ELW p.162

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ELW p.130

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table.

Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

Holy Communion at Saint Andrew's

- *At the table of our Lord Jesus Christ, God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel. In this sacrament the crucified and risen Christ is present, giving his true body and blood as food and drink. This real presence is a mystery. Admission to the Sacrament is by invitation of the Lord, presented through the Church to those who are baptized. This Table of the Lord is open to all the baptized.*
- *Grape juice is available in the center ring of glasses. Gluten-free wafers are available: Please speak to those serving the bread when you come to the rail.*
- *Please follow the guidance of the Worship Hosts, going forward on one side of your section and returning to your seat on the other side.*

COMMUNION

ELW p.164

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

DISTRIBUTION SONG *Lord Have Mercy/At Calvary*

arr. Smith & McDonald

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ make you strong do God's will and keep you in grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray,
God of our salvation,
we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls,
reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey.
Through the body and blood of your Son,
may we become Christ's body in the world,
bearing witness to your love for all creation,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

✠SENDING✠

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH

ELW p.164

BLESSING

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity:
God, who calls all things into existence,
Jesus Christ, who redeems us,
and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation,
✠ bless you now and always.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

You Are the Way

ELW 758

- 1 You are the way; to you alone
from sin and death we flee;
all those who search for God, you find
and by your grace set free.
- 2 You are the truth; your word alone
true wisdom can impart;
you only can inform the mind
and purify the heart.
- 3 You are the life; the rending tomb
proclaims your conqu'ring arm;
and those who put their trust in you
not death nor hell shall harm.

4 You are the way, the truth, the life;
grant us that way to know,
that truth to keep, that life to win,
whose joys eternal flow.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Believe the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

8:30

Reprise: You Are the Way

ELW 758

11:00

You Are the Way

setting by Mark Sedio

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Agnus Day

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TODAY'S MINISTERS FOR WORSHIP

Presiding Minister:	Pr. David Frerichs	
Minister for Music:	Megan Lyon	
Organist	Sheryl Mehrhoff	
Saxophone	Jim Thorpe	
	8:30	11:00
Greeter	Kim Hickey	Linda Vedder
Worship Hosts	Ken Green	Debbie Hedlund
	George Kracke	Maureen Coy
Assisting Minsters	Read Shari Freyermuth	Dawn Lessiack
	Pray Wilson Freyermuth	Phil Wood
Acolyte	TBD	TBD
Communion Preparer	Susan Candea	Linda Vedder
Communion Cleanup		Cindy Vedder
Visual Projectionist	Merri Wente-Chapman	Cindy Vedder
Zoom Worship Host		Susan Goldammer
Zoom Tech Director		Carol Elliott
Building Opener	George Kracke	
Building Closer		Nathan Williams

Rev. David Frerichs, Senior Pastor: pastordavid@saintandrewslutheran.org
Megan Lyon, Minister for Music: mlyon@saintandrewslutheran.org
Sheryl Mehrhoff, Organist: smehrhoff@saintandrewslutheran.org
Wilson Freyermuth, Church Council President: freyermuthr@missouri.edu
Jamie Langbart, Parish Administrator: office@saintandrewslutheran.org

Video Disclaimer: When you enter a Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church worship service/event, you will be entering an area where photography, video and audio recording may occur.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Contributions and expenses through February 28, 2026

	February	YTD
Offerings	\$39,781	\$74,442
Expenses	\$41,312	\$80,496
Over/(under) expenses	(1,531)	(\$6,054)
Nonbudget Special Offerings	\$552	\$1,596



St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

914 West Boulevard South, Columbia, MO 65203

saintandrewslutheran.org

Email: office@saintandrewslutheran.org

Office Phone: 573-449-5674

Office Hours: Sun: 7:00 am–1:00 pm; 1:30 pm–3:30 pm

Mon-Thurs: 8:00 am–12:30 pm; 1:00 pm–4:30 pm

Pastor David's Phone: 402-741-2935

The Lenten Mid-week Series: We will explore the theme “By Faith” using the Letter to the Hebrews as a frame and reference. This service will follow Holden Evening Prayer as the core liturgy and include Holy Communion. Pastor David will offer a very brief reflection on each week's theme. **What is faith?** The text from Hebrews 11:1 defines it in this way: “Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.” This series focuses on the book of Hebrews, especially the eleventh chapter. The first four weeks provide a journey through the faith of the Old Testament figures, especially Noah, Abraham, Moses, and the Israelites. The fifth week brings us to Jesus, “the perfecter of our faith,” and his path to the cross. **March 25: Jesus, the Perfecter of Our Faith:** *Enduring the cross, Jesus became “the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.” How does the way of the cross define our Faith?*

Campaign to Release All Women Palestinian Prisoners: There are currently over 50 Palestinian women and girls in Israel's Damon Prison in conditions that violate all international human rights laws. St. Andrews Friends of Palestinian Detainees invites you to join us in between services on March 22 and 29 to write postcards to these women, and emails to political leaders.

Loaves and Fishes: Our next opportunity to feed those in our community who are in need will be March 22. Meals are distributed at 1509 Ashley Street from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. (look for a yellow structure off the Business Loop, behind the power plant). Contact Susan Goldammer or Jenine Loesing if you are interested in baking, cooking, or serving meals. We are thankful for the congregation's support.

Ground Cleanup: Join in Saturday, March 28th, 9:00 am–12:00 pm for our spring Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church grounds cleanup day! Bring gloves, wheelbarrows, pitchforks and small or large spades. We will be trimming the tall grasses and any remaining plants that require spring pruning, spreading mulch, picking up sticks, and in general cleaning the multiple planting areas to make the church look nice for Easter. Every willing saint needed. If you have any questions contact Mary Ellen Degnan or Jamie.

Fifth Sunday Offering: Every month with 5 Sundays St. Andrew's designates a local charity for a special offering. This March we will collect donations for Loaves and Fishes. We know there are more families and individuals suffering because they are unable to secure life sustaining necessities. Monetary donations to support this ministry may be made directly to Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church.

Holy Week Worship Services: The April 1st Maundy Thursday, April 2nd Good Friday and April 3rd Easter Vigil Saturday services function as one service continued from evening to evening with building themes that follow Jesus from his final instruction with the new commandment to love one another as he has loved us on Thursday, through his passion and death on Friday, to a rehearsal of Old Testament texts that the Christian tradition understands as ground for understanding God's love throughout scripture and concluding the first celebration of the resurrection on Saturday. It is one big worship service and calls the faithful to pace themselves. Join in at 7:00 pm Thursday and Friday at 7:30 pm on Saturday. Easter Services on Sunday April 5th will be at 8:30 and 11:00 am.

Men's Breakfast: Men may join in a time of fellowship and discussion, the first Saturday of every Month. We next meet on Saturday April 4th at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Contact Harry Lewis for more information hlewis25@gmail.com

Prayer Shawl & Craft Ministry: Come, join in at the Prayer Shawl & Crafting Ministry where we knit or crochet prayer shawls, caps, scarves, baby blankets and other items to encourage those in need. We meet the 1st and 3rd Saturday of every month at 11:00 am in room 112 inside the Fellowship Hall. Your creative ideas are welcome. Contact Holly Heidlage holly0917@centurytel.net for more information. Our next gathering is on Saturday, April 4th.

Annual Easter Brunch: Join in on Easter Sunday, April 5th, between the services at 9:45 am in the Fellowship, for a potluck Easter brunch! Join in to celebrate Christ's glorious resurrection in the way Lutherans know best – with food, fun and fellowship! We'll supply the ham, you can bring your favorite side dish, bread, or dessert. This is always a great time to celebrate Christ's resurrection with the whole church family. Bring any guests you have visiting or friends from your community. Signup sheets are in the Narthex! Thank you for your contributions . . . we look forward to seeing you on Easter morning!

Food Bank Barrels: The Food Bank barrels are going away at the end March. Please bring your nonperishable food items to leave in the blue barrels to help those struggling with food security. Thank you for your contributions!

Prayers for March 22, 2026

We add to our prayers this week:

We continue to offer prayers of hope and healing for:

Melissa Stormont	Phyllis Glasker	Arlene Cunningham
Michael Butterworth	Linnea Geenen	Candi Glancy
Dorcas Leighton	Dale Whitman	Patric
Joyce Berschauer	Cathy	Joanne Boomer
Michelle Knipp	Mo Champion-Garthe	

We pray for those in the military:

Eric Childers, Matthew Lee, and those serving throughout the world.

We pray for those with other kinds of needs:

For all who live in times of war and conflict, particularly in the United States, Israel, Iran and all middle eastern Countries, Palestine, Ukraine, Sudan and Congo; we pray in particular for these Palestinian detainees: Shadi Khoury, Layan Nasir, and Hadeel Shatara.

Those who are incarcerated with whom we minister: Brooke, Chastity, Shelena, Rose, Jackie, Sandra, Gina, Kim, Sage, Estelle, Leonna, Hali, Jane, Dana, and Angelica.

We pray for our partners in ministry in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), the Central States Synod and these congregations: Denmark (Sylvan Grove) Lutheran Church, Lincoln, KS; Living Lord Lutheran Church, Lake St. Louis, MO; St. Paul Lutheran Church, Galatia, KS.

Background on Palestinian detainees for whom we pray:

We pray for Layan Nasir, a Christian Palestinian student. She has been subjected to ongoing military trials for four years. In 2024, she was re-arrested and held for eight months under administrative detention. Today, she still faces the threat of an 8-month prison sentence, based on proceedings in a military court system that denies basic legal protections and presumes guilt rather than justice.

We pray for Hadeel Shatara, our FOSNA Palestinian partner, an advancement officer at Birzeit University near Ramallah. She is a fierce advocate of Palestinians and has been detained in the past for speaking out. She asks us to pray for peace for her homeland.

We pray for Shadi Khoury, a Palestinian boy who we have been holding in our prayers each week, was recently sentenced to 2 years and 8 months in prison, and a fine of \$4000. According to Shadi's mother:

- Shadi was beaten and taken from his home in the middle of the night when he was 16 years old. Only after 41 days in detention was he charged with participating in a demonstration and throwing rocks at an Israeli settler car.
- While in detention, he was beaten to the point of losing consciousness three times and suffered a broken nose.
- His first trial was delayed when a Palestinian boy, who was supposed to be a key witness against Shadi, said he had not seen Shadi before, but that jailers said they would beat him more if he did not testify against Shadi. The judge ruled that the prosecution should have more time to gather evidence.
- Despite beatings and being in and out of detention and house arrest over 3 years, Shadi never confessed to wrongdoing. As a result his sentence was longer than other boys who did confess.

THIS WEEK AT ST. ANDREW'S

Sunday, March 22

- 8:30 am Worship (IP)
- 9:45 am Sunday Forum (IP&Z)
- 11:00 am Worship (IP&Z)
- 6:00 pm Loaves and Fishes Distribution (IP-1509 Ashley Street)

Monday, March 23

No Events

Tuesday, March 24

No Events

Wednesday, March 25

- 8:00 am Men's Bible Study (Z)
- 10:00 am Women in the Word (IP&Z)
- 6:15 pm Lenten Evening Prayer (IP)
- 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (IP)

Thursday, March 26

No Events

Friday, March 27

- 9:00 am Quilt Tying (IP)

Saturday, March 28

- 9:00 am Saint Andrew's Grounds Cleanup (IP)

Sunday, March 29: Fifth Sunday Offering—Loaves and Fishes

- 8:30 am Worship (IP)
- 9:45 am Sunday Forum (IP&Z)
- 11:00 am Worship (IP&Z)
- 2:00 pm Faith Milestone: Communion Instruction (IP-Saint Andrew's)
- 2:30 pm Jail Ministry (IP-Boone County Jail)

Reading for Next Wednesday March 25, 2026

Hebrews 12:1-2

Readings for Next Sunday March 29, 2026 Sunday of the Passion / Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalms 31:9-16

Philippians 2:5-11

Matthew 26:14-27:66

*Key: IP—In Person; Z—Zoom; IP&Z—In Person and Zoom

Online Resources

- Find St. Andrew's Lutheran Church at SaintAndrewsLutheran.org.
 - Links to all online services and meetings are posted on our website. SaintAndrewsLutheran.org/online-events
 - Links to all worship bulletins are at SaintAndrewsLutheran.org/worship.
- Go to StAndrewsLutheran.flocknote.com or text StAndy to 84576 to get church email and text communications.
- Miss the livestream of worship? If you want to hear the sermon from Sunday worship, there is now a podcast available at SaintAndrewsLutheranChurch.podbean.com.